

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated March 14, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,411,359 to Kobayashi. Claims 4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kobayashi.

The rejection of claims 1-6 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested. Independent claim 1 is allowable over the cited references in that this claim recites a combination of elements including, for example, "wherein one of the integrated circuit board and the tape carrier package is connected to the inspecting apparatus." None of the cited references including Kobayashi, singly or in combination, teaches or suggests at least this feature of the claimed invention. The structure of claim 1 of the present invention is different from the Kobayashi structure in that Kobayashi does not disclose or suggest "one of the integrated circuit board and the tape carrier package is connected to the inspecting apparatus." Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 and claims 2-6, which depend from claim 1, are allowable over the cited references.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the

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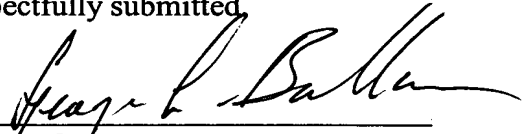
Docket No. 8733.928.00

filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 27, 2005

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